AGRI., CO-OPN. & FORESTS

522. A sum of Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned by the Central Silk Board for the free distribution of chandrikas, etc.

Supply of Chandrikas for distribution of silk worm rearers in Mysore Seed areas.

523. The Central Silk Board have sanctioned a sum of Rs. one lakh for the supply of Refrigerators to aided Graineurs for production of cross breed seed and have placed the amount at the credit of Government.

State Trading in Foreign Silk.

524. With a view to assist the weaving industry in the State, particularly handloom weaving industry, the policy of import of foreign silk by the State was continued during the year. A quantity of 5,682·72 lbs. of silk valued at Rs. 2,27,620 which was in stock at the beginning of the year was sold on tender system. Seventy-one bales of silk were purchased by the Government of India stock. Out of this stock, 66 bales were released to the Mysore Provincial Silk Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Bangalore for distribution to silk handloom weavers of the State.

(iv) Department of Animal Husbandry Services.

525. Considering that livestock forms an integral factor in the agrarian economy of the country and that the improvement of livestock is of primary importance in an agricultural country like Mysore, the organisation and planning under breeding, feeding, management and disease control were continued during the year.

526. With a view to providing the necessary incentives to the cattle breeders of the State and to induce the latter to rear better stocks, the organisers of cattle fairs, *viz.*, Muzrai authorities, District Boards and Municipalities, with the assistance and co-operation of the Department distributed 1,563 (1,108) prizes to the best exhibits at the cattle fairs.

527. There was adequate supply of water and fodder to the cattle, which was a great relief to the livestock of the State. The cattle had to face severe draught conditions for seven consecutive years.

Veterinary Institutions.

528. At the close of the year, there were 225 Veterinary Institutions in the State, one Veterinary Institution for every 27,325 heads of cattle.

AGRI., CO-OPN. & FORESTS.

Contagious Diseases.

Rinderpest.

529. The year was free from Rinderpest infection. Twenty thousand nine hundred and twenty-five animals were protected against Rinderpest, of which nearly 19,000 belonging to the Key Villages were duly indentified by branding.

Black Quarter.

530. There were 26 (16) outbreaks pending attention at the commencement of the year. One thousand two hundred and sixteen (1,014) outbreaks were registered and 1,220 (1,027) were attended to during the year protecting 1,97,226 (1,63,022) animals against the disease by vaccination.

Hæmorrhagic Septicaemia.

531. Out of 490 (506) cases, 490 (504) were dealt with protecting 1,03,074 (91,216) animals against the disease by vaccination.

Anthrax.

532. Six hundred and sixty-five (572) cases were attended, protecting 53,696 (61,591) cattle and sheep against the disease by vaccination measures.

Other Contagious Diseases.

533. The majority of these outbreaks were those of Foot and Mouth disease which assumed somewhat serious turn during the year.

Ranikhet Diseases.

534. The incidence of ranikhet disease continued to be at its lowest. Two thousand nine hundred and sixty one (558) birds were vaccinated against fowl pox and 1,12,836 (73,896) birds were protected against ranikhet disease during the year.

Sheep Breeder's Associations.

535. Eight Sheep Breeder Associations continued to work in the State. There were altogther 3,294 (3,065) members in all these Associations with a strength of 1,18,159 (1,29,244) sheep at the beginning of the year. During the year, 123 (33) members were enrolled and 369 (101) members discontinued their membership leaving 3,048 (3,294) members with a strength of 1,21,749 (1,12,159) at the close of the year.

536. Sixty-four thousand and eighty-three (69,757) sheep were clipped during the year and 13,418 (24,041) lbs. of wool were collected.

Composite Livestock Farm.

537. The activities of the erstwhile grass and Stud Farm at Hessarghatta along with several new ventures were merged to constitute the Composite Livestock Farm and Research Station with effect from 1st April 1951. The

object of the Composite Livestock Farm was to concentrate all the livestock breeding activities on this extensive farm and thus make it both educative to the farmers of the State as well as a training centre in Animal Husbandry activties, besides enabling the Department to undertake researches in various livestock problems in order to improve the usefulness and productiveness of live-stock.

Cattle Breeding Station, Ajjampur.

538. *Health of Livestock.*—The continued draught condition that prevailed in the State during the earlier two years had lowered the stamina to such an extent as to render them wholly unable to withstand the wind, chill and wet weather occasioned by the heavy down-pour during October. Added to this three consecutive waves of Foot and Mouth disease swept through the entire herd of already divitalised animals spelling much disaster and panic among them. In fact the year was by far the worst in the history of the farm.

Strength of Livestock.

539. The year commenced with a total strength of 1,350 (1,239) heads of cattle at both Ajjampur and Basur Farms and at the close of the year the strength was 1,133 (1,350). The total births were 68 (221) out of which 39 (118) were males and 29 (103) females. The average birth weight of the male and female calves was 37 (37-4) and 36-6 (34·8) lbs. respectively.

540. *Dairy.*—Milking some of the cows daily, as in previous years was continued. The total quantity of milk produced was 39,928 (53,619) lbs. of which 36,103 (50,641) lbs. were sold to the public and 3,825 (2,978) lbs. were fed to the debilitated and destitute calves.

Amrithmahal Section.

541. The strength of the herds in the four economic farms was 1,755 (1,875) and the deaths during the year was 151 (200).

Fisheries Section.

542. Fishery conservation measures as usual were enforced during the year in three Fishery divisions comprising Mysore, Mandya, Shimoga and Kolar Districts. Fishing was permitted only under license on lease of fishery rights. Two thousand nine hundred and seventy-three (3,337) fishing licenses were issued.